

From: Beliz, Tania [mailto:beliz@smccd.edu]
Sent: Monday, December 03, 2007 10:01 AM
To: Melissa Miller-Henson
Cc: bobbreen@earthlink.net
Subject: Please Protect the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve

To: Melissa Miller-Hensen:

Melissa@resources.ca.gov

December 3, 2007

To the Department of Fish and Game:

I am a member of Friends of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve because I think the reserve is a very special place that provides an amazing outdoor educational experience and I want to help protect it for future generations. During the process of designating Marine Protected Areas for the North Central Coast of California, please provide the strongest possible protections for the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve. The "ribbon" proposal put forward by recreational fishers will simply continue the problems that I already see at the reserve as a volunteer: it will be difficult for our already overtaxed rangers to enforce, it will continue to undermine the recovery of the monkey face eel and rock prickle-back eel populations, and it's very hard to explain to visitors that this is a reserve and they are not allowed to harm or remove anything – but people with fishing licenses don't have to follow the same rules!

There is a lot of coast available to all fishermen. Please protect the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, a small area in comparison to what is available to them. Consider its protection an investment in helping regenerate many of our marine species that can then migrate to open ocean areas.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Tania Beliz, Ph. D.

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